

Unconscientious Resisters

Antibiotics kill bacteria. That's why they save lives...except when they don't work.

Here's at least part of the problem: Antibiotics are routinely fed to cattle, hogs, and poultry to make them grow faster. That major-and unnecessary-use boosts the odds that bacteria will become immune to antibiotics. And if you happen to get an infection caused by one of those resistant bacteria, the antibiotic your doctor prescribes could be useless. That could kill you.

We have filed a petition with the Food and Drug Administration asking that medically useful antibiotics be banned from animal feed. You can help by signing and mailing this coupon or, better yet, by writing or e-mailing in your own words.

To: Commissioner Jane E. Henney
Parklawn Building, Rm. 14-71
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
(JHENNEY@oc.fda.gov)

From:

SARA CHOCK
PORTLAND, OREGON

As a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), I urge you to save human lives by banning the use of medically useful antibiotics in animal feed. Adding antibiotics to feed in order to promote growth can make bacteria resistant to those antibiotics. And that can leave physicians with no way to treat life-threatening bacterial infections in humans. That's why I support the petition filed by CSPI.

The contents of NAH are not intended to provide personal medical advice, which should be obtained from a qualified health professional.

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The Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) is the non-profit health-advocacy group that publishes Nutrition Action Healthletter. CSPI mounts educational programs and presses for changes in government and corporate policies.

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May 8, 1999

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am a concerned parent & consumer regarding the use of antibiotics in our meat & milk. It is difficult to find meat & milk products that are organically grown.

My family has recently encountered a strain of strep throat that has been especially virulent and resistant to traditional antibiotics (amoxycillin). It is my understanding that this new virulent strain has been sweeping the country.

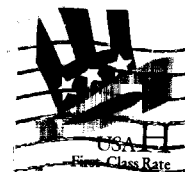
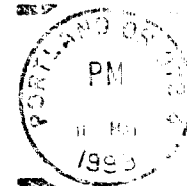
I am writing to ask you to please do what you can to eliminate medically useful antibiotics from animal feed.

Thank you in advance for your efforts to coordinate such a ban.

Sincerely,
Sara M. Chock, Esq.

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99P-0485



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Rockville, MD 20857

